

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00108 01 OF 03 181151Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07 CU-02
BIB-01 /090 W

-----181211Z 078146 /22

P R 180659Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2251
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USNATO BRUSSELS 517

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 SOFIA 0108

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, BU, CSCE
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER: CSCE

REF: A) SOFIA 2705 (1976); B) STATE 305841; C) SOFIA 2606 (1976)

1. SUMMARY. AT JAN 14 MEETING, IN ADDITION TO GIVING STANDARD FORMULATIONS ABOUT ALL BASKETS BEING EQUALLY IMPORTANT, AVOIDANCE OF MUTUAL ACCUSATIONS IN BELGRADE, AND ADMISSION THAT BULGARIA COULD NOT POSSIBLY HAVE IMPLEMENTED ALL PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL ACT, FOREIGN MINISTER MLADENOV ENTERED INTO DISCUSSIONS OF SOME CSCE POINTS WHICH MAY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR FOLLOW-UP IN GREATER DEPTH IF WE DESIRE. HE PROBED FOR US PLANS RE THE CHAPTER ON SECURITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, WHERE HE SEEMED TO FORESEE TROUBLE. DEFENSIVE ON CBM'S AND ECONOMIC DATA, HE CLAIMED CREDIT FOR GOOD PERFORMANCE ON DIVIDED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00108 01 OF 03 181151Z

FAMILIES (BUT AS REPORTED SEPTEL DID NOT YIELD ON THE MAREV CASE). HE CITED FINANCIAL PROBLEM FOR LACK OF IMPLEMENTATION OF HIS EARLIER FORECAST THAT FOREIGN NON-COMMUNIST NEWSPAPERS WOULD BE IMPORTED. SAID IF TERMS OF REFERENCE WERE ADJUSTED CSCE COMMISSION MIGHT YET BE ADMITTED. PROMISED EARLY RESPONSE ON LIFTING OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND WAS WILLING REVIEW GOB REFUSAL

OF REDUCTION OF VISA FEES. ON RFE HE WAS MILITANT, UNCOMPROMISING BUT AGREED TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION SUPPORTING HIS ACCUSATIONS, WHICH HE SHOULD BE UNABLE TO DO. END SUMMARY.

2. MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MLADENOV JANUARY 14 FOR WHAT TURNED OUT TO BE MORE THAN TWO-HOUR MEETING FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON CSCE MATTERS BUT ALSO DEALING WITH RANGE OF BILATERAL ISSUES. SOME TOPICS REPORTED SEPTELS. THIS MESSAGE DEALS WITH GENERAL CSCE MATTERS.

3. I BEGAN BY REMINDING MLADENOV OF USEFUL DISCUSSION WE HAD HAD ON CSCE IN DECEMBER 1975, PLACING OUR MEETING IN CONTEXT OF NORMAL, ONGOING EXCHANGES BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS ON CSCE. MLADENOV, WHO HAD ONLY NOTE-TAKER PRESENT, SAID MATTERS OF DETAIL COULD BE PURSUED WITH MFA "CSCE GROUP" HEADED BY STAIKOV (REF A). READING FROM FINAL SECTION OF THE ACT OF HELSINKI WHICH DEFINES PURPOSES OF BELGRADE MEETING, I ASKED HOW BULGARIA PERCEIVED THE AGENDA OF BELGRADE '77.

4. BELGRADE AND BEYOND: MLADENOV FIRST GAVE THE STANDARD BULGARIAN POSITION THAT THERE CAN BE NO CHANGES IN PRINCIPLES OF HELSINKI, THAT FINAL ACT MUST BE SEEN AS A UNITY, AND THAT BULGARIA DOES NOT DIFFERENTIATE AMONG BASKETS IN LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTATION. BULGARIA WISHED BELGRADE CONFERENCE TO BE "CONSTRUCTIVE IN SPIRIT, NOT A TRIBUNE OF MUTUAL RECRIMINATION." HE WARNED THAT "BOTH SIDES COULD COLLECT ALL THE STONES IN THEIR GARDENS AND

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SOFIA 00108 01 OF 03 181151Z

TAKE THEM TO BELGRADE TO THROW AT EACHOTHER." IT IS TRUE, HE SAID, THAT BULGARIA HAS NOT IMPLEMENTED ALL ASPECTS OF FINAL ACT IN THE SHORT TIME SINCE AUGUST 1975, BUT THE DOCUMENT HAD ALWAYS BEEN INTENDED TO GUIDE "LIVING RELATIONS" OVER LONG PERIOD OF TIME. BULGARIA HOPED THERE WOULD BE PAUCITY OF "CHEAP PROPAGANDA SPEECHES" WHICH FURNISH "GOOD MATERIAL FOR JOURNALISTS" BUT "WITH NO SERIOUS, POSITIVE BASIS." ASKED ABOUT FURTHER MEETINGS CONTEMPLATED IN FINAL SECTION HE SAID HIS GOVT HAD NOT YET FORMULATED ITS VIEWS AND THEY WOULD PROBABLY DEPEND ON BELGRADE. "SOCIALIST COUNTRIES" REMAIN INTERESTED IN EUROPEAN SPECIALIZED MEETINGS ON ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, ETC., WHICH HE SAID ARE "LESS INTERESTING TO US BECAUSE YOU ARE FARTHER AWAY."

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00108 02 OF 03 181204Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07 CU-02
BIB-01 /090 W

-----181212Z 078277 /22

P R 180659Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2252

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USNATO BRUSSELS 518

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 SOFIA 0108

5. I SAID WHILE WE TOO REGARD ALL PARTS OF THE FINAL ACT AS EQUALLY IMPORTANT, SOME PROVISIONS NATURALLY LEND THEMSELVES MORE TO TESTING OF IMPLEMENTATION THAN OTHERS. I ASKED HOW, FOR INSTANCE, OBSERVANCE OF PRINCIPLES OF BASKET I COULD BE TESTED. MLADENOV AGREED THAT FORTUNATELY THERE HAD BEEN NO NON-OBSERVANCE. (FOR DISCUSSION OF CBM'S SEE PARA 7 BELOW.) I THEN SAID, IN ACCORDANCE REFS B AND C, THAT PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND BELGRADE MEETING WAS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN IMPROVING PERFORMANCE BY ALL SIGNATORIES SINCE IT WAS NATURAL THAT DEGREE OF PROGRESS (OR ABSENCE THEREOF) WOULD ATTRACT MOST ATTENTION AND COMMENT, INCLUDING THAT OF US CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC OPINION.

6. MEDITERRANEAN. BEFORE ENTERING UPON DISCUSSION OF INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS, MLADENOV ASKED IF USG HAS ANY VIEWS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00108 02 OF 03 181204Z

ON HOW TO HANDLE THE SECTION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN ("BASKET 2-1/2"), RECALLING THE TIME THAT HAD BEEN SPENT LISTENING TO INTERVENTIONS OF MALTA AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. I SAID I HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS FROM

WASHINGTON AND ASSUMED WE HAVE NO GREAT DESIRE TO DISCUSS THIS ASPECT. MLADENOV SAID THIS SECTION DID NOT INVOLVE ONLY MALTA BUT ALSO "SEVERAL OTHER MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE INTERESTED" AND BULGARIAN POSITION HAD THEREFORE NOT YET BEEN FINALIZED. HE SEEMED ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN LEARNING WHETHER WE HAD ANY IDEAS ON HOW TO HEAD OFF LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS AND SAID HE COULD FORESEE NOTHING THAT WOULD CHANGE THE POSITION BULGARIA HAD TAKEN AT GENEVA.

7. BASKET 1: I MADE PRESENTATION REGARDING CBM'S AS PER REF A. MLADENOV RESPONDED THAT BULGARIA WILL OBSERVE PRECEPTS OF NOTIFICATION AND CAREFULLY AVOIDED SAYING WHETHER OR NOT BULGARIA WOULD HAVE MANEUVERS ABOVE THRESHOLD LIMIT DURING THE COMING YEAR. (HE REMARKED, AS HE HAD THE LAST TIME, THAT THE BEST CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURE WOULD BE THE ABSENCE OF SUCH MANEUVERS.) AS FOR BULGARIA NOT HAVING ACCEPTED ONE WEST GERMAN INVITATION TO OBSERVE, THIS HAD BEEN SOLELY BECAUSE INVITATION HAD BEEN EXTENDED TO BULGARIAN EMBASSY BONN WHICH HAD NO MILITARY ATTACHE, RATHER THAN TO GOB, A POINT HE SAID HE HAD MADE TO FORMER GERMAN AMBASSADOR MENNE.

8. BASKET 2: I MADE POINTS AS PER REFS B AND C REGARDING INCONSISTENCY WITH CSCE OF DISCRIMINATORY TRADE REGULATIONS AND SPARSE, LATE, AND NON-COMPARABLE BULGARIAN COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION, NOTING THAT BULGARIA'S PERFORMANCE IN THIS FIELD WAS BELOW THE STANDARD OF MOST OTHER EE COUNTRIES. MLADENOV SQUIRMED A BIT, BEGINNING HIS RIPOSTE BY CLAIMING THAT ROMANIA'S RECORD WAS WORSE, HE THEN DRAGGED OUT A FRENCH YEARBOOK PREPARED FROM UN SOURCES THAT CONTAINED PER CAPITA GNP FIGURES NOT ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION AND CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS. IN THE END, HE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SOFIA 00108 02 OF 03 181204Z

AGREED TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS OF THIS QUESTION CONTINUED AT THE WORKING LEVEL, ADDING THAT HE WOULD WELCOME "DETAILS WITH WHICH TO PUNISH MY COLLEAGUES, TO MAKE THEM STAND AGAINST THE WALL." HE ADDED JOCULARLY, "WE CANNOT BE THE BEST IN EVERYTHING."

9. BASKET 3: I MADE PRESENTATION ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES AS PER INSTRUCTIONS, LEAVING MAREV CASE UNTIL LATER (SEE SOFIA 0100). REMINDED MLADENOV OF HIS REPEATED ASSURANCES THAT NON-COMMUNIST WESTERN PUBLICATIONS WERE OR WOULD SHORTLY BE ON SALE IN BULGARIA, A STILL MANIFESTLY UNFULFILLED PLEDGE. MLADENOV RESPONDED THAT IT WAS HIS EXPERIENCE THAT SUCH PUBLICATIONS WERE ON SALE IN BULGARIAN HOTELS BUT ADDED LAMELY THAT PERHAPS THE HOTELS DISPLAYED THEM ONLY WHEN HE VISITED THEM. HE THEN PROCEEDED TO CLAIM THAT CLAUSE REGARDING DISSEMINATION

OF INFORMATION WAS RECOMMENDATION, NOT AN OBLIGATORY MEASURE. IMPORTING WESTERN NEWSPAPERS IS ALSO A FINANCIAL QUESTION FOR BULGARIA, WHEREAS WEST SEES THEM IN TERMS OF THEIR "IDEOLOGICAL IMPACT." HE MENTIONED THAT BULGARIA IS PLANNING A PRESS CENTER (REF A) THAT WOULD MAKE CONTACTS EASIER FOR FOREIGN JOURNALISTS. HE SAID WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE NOT IMPORTING MANY BULGARIAN PAPERS. BULGARIA WAS OF COURSE NOT SEEKING FULL RECIPROCITY BUT HE BELIEVED ITS RECORD WAS GOOD. HE OFFERED TO HAVE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE WORKING LEVEL.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00108 03 OF 03 181207Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07 CU-02
BIB-01 /090 W

-----181211Z 078336 /22

P R 180659Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 925
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USNATO BRUSSELS 519

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 SOFIA 0108

10. I SAID WHILE NOT MANY BULGARIAN PAPERS WERE BEING IMPORTED INTO US, THE POINT IS THAT WE ARE PUTTING NO OBSTACLES TO SUCH IMPORTATION. ALSO NOTED THAT WHILE MAKING WESTERN NEWSPAPERS AVAILABLE TO WESTERN TOURISTS AND DURING CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES ETC. CONFORMS TO ONE CLAUSE OF SECTION 2 BASKET III, ANOTHER CLAUSE DEALS QUITE SPECIFICALLY WITH "INTENTION" OF SIGNATORIES TO FACILITATE MORE GENERAL DISSEMINATION. AS FOR FINANCING IMPORTS, IT MIGHT INTEREST MLADENOV THAT WE HAD JUST RECEIVED THE REPORT OF THE STUDY MISSION TO EUROPE OF THE CSCE COMMISSION, AND WHILE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS DO NOT COMMIT OUR

GOVT IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT ONE OF THEM RAISES THE IDEA OF CONVERTING SOFT CURRENCIES ACCEPTED IN PAYMENT FOR US PUBLICATIONS INTO DOLLARS. MLADENOV THOUGHT THIS AN INTERESTING IDEA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00108 03 OF 03 181207Z

11. CSCE COMMISSION: THIS LED TO DISCUSSION OF STUDY MISSION'S INABILITY TO VISIT BULGARIA WHICH I TERMED A LOST OPPORTUNITY FOR GOB TO DISCUSS NOT ONLY ITS OWN RECORD OF IMPLEMENTATION BUT ALSO ANY CRITICISMS IT MIGHT HAVE OF OUR IMPLEMENTATION. MLADENOV SAID HE FELT HE WAS "COMPLETELY CLEAR" IN HIS MIND ABOUT THE COMMISSION. BULGARIA WELCOMED ANY AND ALL DISCUSSIONS OF CSCE BUT WAS NOT GOING TO ACCEPT GROUP COMING TO "INSPECT" IT. SOCIALIST COUNTRIES DID NOT EVEN DO THAT TO EACH OTHER; BULGARIA WOULD NOT SEND "INVESTIGATORY" GROUP TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FOR EXAMPLE. HOWEVER, IF THERE WERE TO BE AN "EXCHANGE" OF PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS, TO CONSIDER CSCE IMPLEMENTATION IN BOTH COUNTRIES, BULGARIA MIGHT BE MORE INTERESTED. I ASKED IF ANOTHER VISIT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE IF TERMS OF REFERENCE EMPHASIZED MUTUALITY, AND MLADENOV SAID YES. I TOOK OCCASION TO EXPLAIN TO HIM AGAIN THE INCREASED ROLE OF US CONGRESS IN OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS, AND WHY IT IS TO BULGARIA'S INTEREST TO TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT (HAVING IN MIND ALSO SUCH MATTERS AS DIVIDED FAMILIES).

12. JAMMING OF FOREIGN RADIO BROADCASTS. PRESENTATION IN ACCORDANCE REFS B AND C RESULTED IN LENGTHY EXPOSTULATIONS FROM MLADENOV WHICH ARE SUBJECT SEPTTEL.

13. TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND REDUCTION OF VISA FEES. REMINDED MLADENOV THAT ALMOST A YEAR HAS GONE BY SINCE WE MADE FORMAL PROPOSAL RE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS, AND BULGARIA IS NOW ONLY EE COUNTRY (OTHER THAN ALBANIA) WITH WHICH WE HAVE NO SUCH AGREEMENT. HE SAID REPLY WAS IN PREPARATION AND WOULD BE SENT SHORTLY. I THEN SAID WE HAD RECEIVED GENERALLY NEGATIVE RESPONSE RE MUTUAL REDUCTION OF VISA FEES, BUT SHOULD NOT GIVE UP ON THIS. A COMPROMISE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. MLADENOV REPLIED THAT IF IT WERE QUESTION OF ABOLISHING VISAS, IT WOULD BE A POLITICAL QUESTION AND HIS MINISTRY WOULD PREVAIL. SINCE IT WAS QUESTION OF REDUCING

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SOFIA 00108 03 OF 03 181207Z

REVENUES, ISSUE WAS WITHIN COMPETENCE OF FINANCE MINISTRY,

BUT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO APPROACH THEM ON THE MATTER.
IT WAS AGREED TO REFER THIS TO WORKING LEVEL FOR DIS-
CUSSION.

14. DIVIDED FAMILIES. DISCUSSION WAS GENERAL, WITH THE
MAREV CASE (SEPTEL) RESERVED FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION AS
SEPARATE BILATERAL PROBLEM. MLADENOV WAS LOOKING FOR CREDIT
FOR HAVING MOVED A NUMBER OF CASES FORWARD, AND I SAID THIS IS
SO BUT MUCH STILL REMAINS TO BE DONE.

15. COMMENTS FOLLOW SEPARATELY.
HERZ

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SOFIA00108
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770018-0390
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770141/aaaabjrm.tel
Line Count: 344
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 897147d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SOFIA 2705, 77 STATE 305841, 77 SOFIA 2606
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3571097
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER: CSCE
TAGS: PFOR, US, BU, CSCE, (MLADENOV, PETUR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/897147d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009